

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant(s):</b>	Hisashi Kuroshima, et al.	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	To be assigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	17154
<b>For:</b>	STORAGE DEVICE FOR STEAM STERILIZATION	<b>Dated:</b>	October 29, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 5-285103, published November 2, 1993 together with an English language abstract.

Applicants are submitting a copy of the above-cited reference. The relevance of the above-cited reference has been described in the specification.

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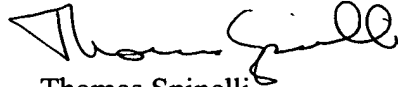
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 29, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas Spinelli

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) <b>17154</b>	Application Number <b>To be assigned</b>
	Applicant(s) <b>Hisashi Kuroshima, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>	Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>
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*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>
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	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		<b>5-285103</b>	<b>11/2/1993</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>✓</b>	

<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>
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<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.